



**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
TOWN OF STERLING  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
NOVEMBER 12, 2014**

**WARRANT**

**for  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING on Wednesday Nov. 12, 2014 at 8pm**

To either of the Constables of the **Town of Sterling:**

**GREETINGS:** In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in the Special Town Meeting at: **CHOCKSETT SCHOOL GYM - 40 Boutelle Road on Nov. 12, 2014** from 8pm to approximately 10pm for the purpose of voting said Town Meeting as follows:

**ARTICLE 1. Transfer Free Cash to Capital Investment Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Free Cash to the Capital Investment Fund, as allowed by the bylaws of Sterling; or take any action relative thereto.

**Submitted by:** The Finance Committee

**Recommendation:** The Finance Committee and Capital Committee will report at the Special Town Meeting on this article.

**Summary:** This article transfers funds from an available fund, Free Cash, to the Capital Investment Fund.

**ARTICLE 2. Increase Library Wages**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, the sum of \$1,420.00 to increase wages in the Conant Library wage line item account to

*fully fund* the Town of Sterling Compensation Plan voted at the May 3, 2014 Annual Town Meeting; or take any action relative thereto.

**Submitted by:** Library Trustees

**Recommendation:** The Finance Committee supports this article.

**Summary:** This article corrects an error in the Town of Sterling 2015 Budget, as voted at the May 3, 2014 Annual Town meeting, where the numbers for the "wages requested" and "wages approved" were transposed in the printed/adopted budget.

### **ARTICLE 3. Procure New Financial and Accounting Software and Computer Systems**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, a sum of money to pay for a new, integrated treasury, tax collection, and accounting software system, and to procure the technology hardware and local operating systems on which to operate this system; or take any action relative thereto.

**Submitted by:** Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen, Town Treasurer, Town Accountant.

**Recommendation:** The Finance Committee will report at Special Town Meeting on this article.

**Summary:** The current tax and fee collection system, treasury cash management system, and accounting system are at the end of their useful life, and will not be supported by the software vendor as of June 30, 2015. The town needs a modern, integrated software system to track expenditures, collections, and accounts in order to assure transparency and improved efficiency in financial operations.

### **ARTICLE 4. Town Bylaw Amendment Banning Public Meetings on Election Day**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Sterling General Bylaws, Chapter 180 Section 13, by inserting the words in italics (below), so that the bylaw will now read, "All town boards, commissions, committees, etc. are prohibited from holding public meetings on the day of ***any election and*** any Special or Annual Sterling Town Meeting later than one hour prior to the start of said Town Meeting except for meetings made necessary for consideration of matters before the Town Meeting and which are held at the time and place of said Town Meeting,." or take any action relative thereto.

**Submitted by:** Town Clerk

**Recommendation:** The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

**Summary:** The Attorney General of the Commonwealth has recommended that Town's NOT hold public meetings on Election Day, in order to assure that voters are not excluded from the fullest possible participation in the democratic electoral process.

## **ARTICLE 5. Nitrogen Loading Permit Request**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Conservation Commission to implement Grants of Title 5 Nitrogen Loading Restrictions and Easements on and over two parcels of land under the care and custody of the Town of Sterling Conservation Commission identified as follows: (1) a certain parcel of land located in the Town of Sterling, Worcester County, Massachusetts, constituting approximately 10.21 acres, being more particularly shown as Lot 2 on a plan of land in Sterling, Mass. prepared for Donald J. Blanchflower and Richard C. Blanchflower dated September, 1997 by David E. Ross Associates, Inc., Civil Engineers, a copy of which is recorded in the Worcester County Registry of Deeds at Plan Book 722, Plan No. 24, and (2) a certain parcel of land located in the Town of Sterling, Worcester County, Massachusetts, constituting approximately 17.22 acres, being more particularly shown as parcel B on a certain plan entitled "Plan of Land in Sterling, Mass owned by Stonegate Village LLC, scale 1"=60' prepared by Thomas Land Surveyors & Engineering Consultants" dated April 24, 2007, a copy of which is recorded in the Worcester County Registry of Deeds at Plan Book 862, Plan No. 54, for the purpose of implementing a Nitrogen Loading Facility Aggregation Plan approved by the Town of Sterling Board of Health and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection on terms and conditions deemed to be in the best interest of the Town, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file a Petition with the General Court under Article 97 of the Declaration of Rights to permit such grants for the above-identified conservation land and further to authorize Town Officials to take any action necessary to implement this Article; or take any action relative thereto.

**Submitted by:** Conservation Commission/Board of Selectmen

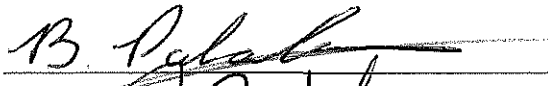
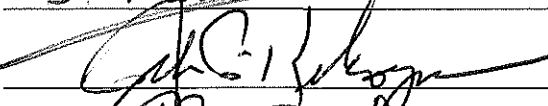
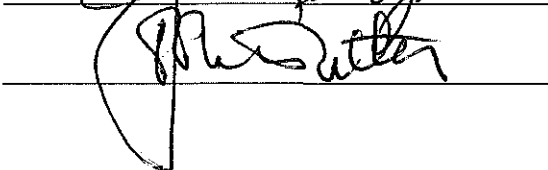
**Recommendation:** The Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen support this article.

**Summary:** This article creates a nitrogen loading permit for residents of Patriot's Way in order to bring them into compliance with Massachusetts DEP Title V septic requirements.

**And you are directed** to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies thereof, one at each of the locations listed below at least fourteen (14) before the time for holding said meeting: Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereto to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this day of 22 October 2014 (date)

By the Sterling Board of Selectmen:

	Brian J. Patacchiola, Chairman
	John F. Kilcoyne
	Robert F. Cutler

This signed Warrant will be posted on the Town Website by the Town Clerk. I hereby certify that I have posted the foregoing Warrant by hand at the following locations:

Butterick Municipal Building,  
Conant Free Library,  
Sterling Post Office,  
Sterling Police Station,  
Sterling Municipal Light Building (annex-due to construction)  
and the Department of Public Works building.

		<u>10-28-2014</u>
<b>Method of service of Warrant</b>	<b>by CONSTABLE</b>	<b>on (date)</b>

No later than October 29, 2014, per MGL Ch39:10.

*A true copy*

**attest:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk